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1. Each Czechoslovak city or town maintained a permanent register of its inhabitants which showed their ages. When a youth reached 19 years of age he was requested by letter to report to a recruiting center for a medical examination. If the medical examination were passed, the youth would be called into service within the year.
2. Conscripts for the Czechoslovak Air Force were usually called in March and October; for the Army the date was usually the first of October. The last class of conscripts called to the Air Force was in October 1952. I do not know what percentage of the military draft was assigned to the Air Force.
3. The period of conscripted service for Czechoslovaks was formerly two years in either the Army or the Air Force. In 1952 the period for Air Force service was lengthened to three years (some Army regiments also required three years' service of conscripts, but I cannot name them). Volunteers for service as pilots (who had to volunteer before reaching conscript age) were required to serve for five to six years. No personnel, except those found politically unreliable, were released at the end of their terms of service; this is resulting in the expansion of the Czechoslovak Air Force. This service absorbs at least 500 pilots each year; these conscripts receive their training at schools near all military airfields.

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4. Morale was poor among both officers and EM in the Air Force. The main grievances were about overwork, too much political indoctrination, and lack of scope for personal activities. When I was at pilot school [redacted] in 1949, very little alcoholic drinking was done by pilots, but this year there has been much drinking by pilots.
 5. Listening to foreign broadcasts was not discussed among Air Force personnel whom I knew for fear of informers, although I am certain that a large percentage listened to these broadcasts.
 6. I consider discipline in the Air Force to have been severe. Although I cannot recall examples, I heard that a guard found asleep on duty would be imprisoned for at least three years. Personnel were efficient in their duties, but only through fear of punishment for inefficiency.
 7. Other than the following few details, I can give no information on Air Force rates of pay:
 - a. EM received 10 crowns a day.
 - b. Pilot pay depended upon the type of aircraft flown, rank, and the appointment held.
 - c. [redacted] I received 6,000 - 7,000 crowns a month, after deductions.
 8. Food for aircrews was good, compared to that of the civilian population. This fact tended to boost morale.
 9. Airmen were awarded leave according to merit; poor work resulted in cancellation of leave. Generally there was a leave period of 7 - 10 days at Christmas or at Easter. Officers had 14 days annual leave, plus 14 days of annual "recreation" leave at an organized rest center. A particularly good piece of work by an individual would sometimes earn him a promotion and additional leave. Promotion of officers and EM was decided by merit, but an individual's political soundness played a major role in his rate of promotion.
 10. Apart from irregular week end duty, free time was allowed from noon Saturday till Monday morning. The daily program depended on the regiment commander, but the general schedule was as follows:
 - a. EM's schedule:
 - Reveille: 0500 hours in summer; 0600 hours in winter; tidying billets and selves during next hour
 - Breakfast: 0600 - 0645 hours in summer; 0700 - 0745 hours in winter
 - Work until 1200 hours
 - Lunch period: 1200 - 1300 hours
 - Work: 1300 - 1700 hours (during this time there was a rest period of 1 - 1½ hours)
 - Orders for evening or next day's work read at 1700 hours
 - Dinner: 1800 hours
 - Free period, if no organized activities
 - Lights out at 2200 hours.
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b. Officers' schedule:

Breakfast: 0700 - 0730 hours

Work until 1130 hours

Reading of daily orders for 10 to 15 minutes

Lunch: 1200 - 1300 hours

Work until 1800 hours

Supper: 1830 or 1900 hours

Organized activities e.g., politics, were sometimes given afterwards for about two hours; otherwise, free time after 1900 hours.

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